



**DRAFT**

June 24, 2003

## Policy Brief..... FY 2004 Dept of Homeland Security Appropriations

### BY THE NUMBERS:

*Discretionary Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars*

|                           | <b>FY '03</b> | <b>FY '04<br/>Request</b> | <b>FY '04<br/>Cmte Bill</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Appropriations            | 22,568        | 28,372                    | 29,411                      |
| <i>War Supplemental</i>   | 3,911         | 0                         | 0                           |
| <i>Grants to Airlines</i> | 2,396         | 0                         | 0                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | 28,875        | 28,372                    | 29,411                      |
| <i>Advance Approps</i>    | 0             | 0                         | 4,703                       |

**Excluding the War Supplemental and Grants to Airlines, the Committee bill is:**

- \$6,843 million or 30.3% above last year; and
- \$1,038 million or 3.7% above the President's request.

**Including the War Supplemental and Grants to Airlines, the Committee bill is:**

- \$535.7 million or 1.9% above last year; and
- \$1,038 million or 3.7% above the President's request.

The Advance Funding included in the bill is for Project Bioshield and is to remain available until FY 2013. The Administration proposed mandatory funding for this program.

## **NEW PROGRAMS:**

- \$35 million for a new “competitive training grant program” for first responder and emergency training centers
- \$25 million for a new “competitive emergency operations center grants” program to equip, modify, renovate, or repair existing emergency operations centers
- The bill directs the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to establish an accrediting body to establish standards for assessing and measuring effectiveness of training.

## **PROGRAMS TERMINATED BY ADMINISTRATION, BUT CONTINUED IN BILL:**

- Section 404 post-disaster hazard mitigation grants program. The Administration proposed discontinuing this program, but continuing the pre-disaster competitive grants program.

## **EARMARKS:**

- The Committee Report directs the Administration to work with the State University System of Florida on comprehensive hurricane mitigation research and specifically singles out a proposal submitted by Florida International University.
- The Committee Report specifically directs the Administration to, within the funds provided, update the flood maps for five specific counties in Kentucky (Bell, Know, Whitely, Laurel, and Harlan). In addition, the Committee Report directs the Administration to provide funding to study the flood plain in Abilene, Texas and to use utilize high resolution digital elevation model in Minnesota.
- The Committee Report earmarks funding for the following bridge projects:
  - \$3.5 million for the Fourteen Mile Bridge in Mobile, AL;
  - \$4 million for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Bridge in Burlington, IA;
  - \$1.5 million for the Canadian Pacific Railroad Bridge in LaCrosse, WI;
  - \$2 million for the Chelsea Street Bridge in Chelsea, MA; and
  - \$8.5 million for the Florida Avenue railroad/highway combination bridge in New Orleans, LA.

These earmarks consume 100% of the funds appropriated for Alteration of Bridges.

## **LANGUAGE OF NOTE:**

**New Fee:** The bill authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General to impose “reasonable” fees and charges (on an individual or employer) for background checks if such check is required under Federal law for an activity in the field of transportation.

**Threat Alert System:** The Committee Report directs the Department to report to Congress “on steps that will be taken to ensure that the appropriate Congressional Committees are notified on a timely basis when there is a proposed alert status change.”

**US VISIT System Restriction:** The bill prohibits obligation of funds for the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology system (US VISIT) until certain steps are taken, including compliance with acquisition rules. The bill also prevents expenditure of funds for the project until an expenditure plan has been approved by the Appropriations Committee.

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